

**State of California
Department of Parks and Recreation**

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
1416 Ninth Street
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

PROJECT TITLE: North Salmon Creek Dunes Western Snowy Plover Recovery Project

LOCATION: Sonoma Coast State Beach

COUNTY: Sonoma

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:

Control exotic plant species including, but not limited to, European beachgrass and iceplant. Manual removal and possible chemical control are planned in the one-acre project area, covering approximately one quarter-acre per year. Project is designed to enhance coastal dune habitat in an effort to support recovery efforts for the coastal population of the federally listed (threatened) western snowy plover (WSP). Salmon Creek Beach is identified as critical habitat for the WSP.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Russian River District

EXEMPT STATUS:

- ☐ Declared Emergency (Section 15269(a))
☐ Emergency Project (Section 15269(b) and (c))
☐ Statutory Exemption (Section:)
☒ Categorical Exemption

Class: 4 Section: 15304

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:

Project consists of minor public alterations in the condition of land and vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees, resulting in improved habitat for wildlife resources.

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Northern Service Center

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Joseph P. Mette III, District Superintendent

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